

Refuge and I urge a ye a vote on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. FALEOMAVEGA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, again I thank my good friend from Arizona for his management of this legislation. I thank also the chairman of the Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife, and Oceans, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCREST), who is the chief sponsor of this proposed legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill passed in committee last year and we are just going through the process and refining it even better. As stated by my good friend from Arizona, this noncontroversial legislation would authorize the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to expand the existing Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge through the acquisition of Garrett Island.

Mr. Speaker, wildlife habitats such as that found on Garrett Island is in short supply in the lower reach of the Susquehanna River. In fact, it is my understanding that Garrett Island is the only bedrock island in the tidal portion of the Chesapeake Bay System.

The Fish and Wildlife Service should be encouraged to pursue the addition of this valuable property to enhance the existing Blackwater Refuge Complex and also to ensure the long-term protection of important open space and fish and wildlife habitat.

Again, in closing, I want to express my full support of this proposed legislation. And I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. GILCREST. Mr. Speaker, as the author of H.R. 274, I am pleased the House is considering this legislation to expand the boundaries of the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, which is located in my congressional district.

Garrett Island, which consists of approximately 180 acres, was the site of Maryland's second settlement in the 1600's. It is the only rocky island in the tidal waters of the Chesapeake Bay system, and it is a vital link between the Susquehanna River and the Bay. It also provides habitat to 44 different bird species, including eagles, Common Loons, Tundra Swans and 14 species of ducks.

I have visited Garrett Island and there is no question that its rich history, geographic location and wildlife resource values make it an excellent candidate for inclusion within the National Wildlife Refuge system. As a nation, we can ill afford to allow unique places, like Garrett Island, to be lost forever.

While I am disappointed that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has not endorsed this idea, I was pleased to hear the agency testify that, "Given the Island's historic and archaeological values, its recreational opportunities, and its environmental education and interpretation potential, a concerted effort should be put forth to provide long-term protection and management of the island." This is the goal of H.R. 274.

The Cecil Land Trust has done everything it can to protect this important property, contributing \$150,000 toward the purchase of the island. Based on our hearing, Federal acquisition costs will be less than \$400,000, and little, if any, maintenance or personnel will be required in the future. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation had it right when it wrote that steps must be taken to "ensure protection of this largely unspoiled, historical and ecological gem."

I would urge my Colleagues to vote "aye" on H.R. 274! This is an important and necessary inclusion in our National Wildlife Refuge system, which celebrated its 100th birthday last month. This is exactly the type of place that Theodore Roosevelt had in mind when this unique system of public lands was created.

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 274.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material in the RECORD regarding the three bills just considered, H. Res. 173, H.R. 274, and S. 162.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT MANAGER OF THE HONORABLE ROBERT C. SCOTT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Gisele P. Russell, District Manager of the Honorable Robert C. SCOTT, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, April 24, 2003.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Circuit Court of Newport News, Virginia in a criminal case.

After consultation with the Office of General counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the precedents and Privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

GISELE P. RUSSELL,
District Manager.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1834

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 6 o'clock and 34 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

House Resolution 204, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 156, by the yeas and nays;

House Concurrent Resolution 149, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The second electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote. The third vote will be another 15-minute vote.

CONGRATULATING CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR THEIR ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 204, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 204, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 0, answered "present" 5, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 146]
YEAS—403

Abercrombie	Barton (TX)	Blunt
Aderholt	Bass	Boehlert
Akin	Beauprez	Boehner
Alexander	Bell	Bonilla
Allen	Bereuter	Bonner
Andrews	Berkley	Bono
Baca	Berman	Boozman
Bachus	Berry	Boswell
Baird	Biggart	Boucher
Baker	Bilirakis	Bradley (NH)
Baldwin	Bishop (GA)	Brady (PA)
Ballance	Bishop (NY)	Brady (TX)
Ballenger	Bishop (UT)	Brown (OH)
Barrett (SC)	Blackburn	Brown (SC)
Bartlett (MD)	Blumenauer	Brown, Corrine